

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| | |) | Examiner C. Appiah |
| Appl. No. | 10/680,522 |) | |
| | |) | Art Unit 2686 |
| Confirm. No. | 505 |) | |
| | |) | Atty. Docket No. CS23738RL |
| Filed: | 7 October 2003 |) | |
| Title: | "Wireless Radio Network Resource Sharing Among Core Networks And Methods" | | |

PRE-APPEAL BRIEF REVIEW REQUEST

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Sir:

Review Request & Claims Pending

The final Office action mailed on 19 June 2006 has been considered carefully. Review of the claimed invention in view of the discussion below is respectfully requested. A Notice of Appeal has been filed concurrently with this Request. Claims 1-38 are pending. Claims 1-13 and 18 stand allowed. Claims 29 and 31 stand objected to. Claims 14-17, 26-28, 30, 32, 33 and 35-38 are rejected.

Allowability of Claims Over Mildh

Claims 14-17, 25-26 and 34-36 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) for anticipation by U.S. Publication No. 2002/0193139 (Mildh).

Regarding Claim 14, Mildh discloses selecting among different access networks, i.e., GERAN or UTRAN technologies. Mildh does not disclose multiple core networks sharing a common access network. Core networks are not that same as access networks. Thus there is no reason for Mildh to disclose a mobile station that receives system information including "... pointer information indicating where the communication device may obtain information about multiple core networks sharing a common access network...." In Mildh, at para. [0015], GERAN or UTRAN access network selection is based on registration information in the HLR, wherein the network may select the access technology for the terminal. At para. [0016], Mildh teaches broadcasting a value indicating which access network (GERAN or UTRAN) the MS should camp on. Claim 14 is directed to providing information about different core networks that share a common access network. Mildh discloses selecting among different access networks. Claim 14 is thus patentably distinguished over Mildh.

Discussion of Claim 15

Regarding Claim 15, Mildh fails to disclose in combination with the limitations of Claim 14, "... selecting the one of the multiple core networks to which the communication device attempts to connect using the information about multiple core networks sharing the common access network from which the system information message was received." At para. [0018], Mildh discloses selecting among different access networks, i.e., GERAN or UTRAN, not different core networks. Claim 15 is thus further patentably distinguished over Mildh.

Discussion of Claim 25

Regarding Claim 25, Mildh does not disclose a communication device that receives "... information about multiple core networks sharing a common access network, the information including at least one of identities of at least some of the multiple core networks sharing the common access network, core network domain information, information on services supported by at least some of the multiple core networks sharing the common access network..." and "... selecting a core network to which the communication device attempts to connect using the information received."

In Mildh, at para. [0015], GERAN or UTRAN access network selection is based on registration information in the HLR, wherein the network may select the access technology for the terminal. At para. [0016], Mildh teaches broadcasting a value indicating which access network (GERAN or UTRAN) the MS should camp on. Claim 15 is directed to a mobile station that receives information about different core networks that share a common access network and selects one of the core networks. Mildh discloses selecting among different access network, i.e., GERAN or UTRAN, not selecting among different core networks. Claim 25 is thus patentably distinguished over Mildh.

Discussion of Claim 34

Regarding Claim 34, Mildh does not disclose a communications network entity that receives "... preferred core network information from a communication device" selects "... a core network for the communication device... giving consideration to the preferred core network information

received from the communication device when selecting the core network for the communication device." In Mildh, at para., [0015], the network selects an access network (GERAN or UTRAN) for the MS based on registration information in the HLR. An access network however is not the same as a core network. Claim 34 is thus patentably distinguished over Mildh.

Allowability of Claim 36

Regarding Claim 36, Mildh does not disclose a communications network entity that receives a "... communication device identity from a communication device..." and selects a "... core network from multiple core networks sharing a common access network for the communication device based on the communication device identity." In Mildh, at para., [0015], the network selects an access network (GERAN or UTRAN) for the MS based on registration information in the HLR. An access network however is not the same as a core network. Claim 36 is thus patentably distinguished over Mildh.

Allowability of Claims Over Rajaniemi

Claims 27, 28, 30 and 33 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) for anticipation by U.S. Patent No. 6,792,277 (Rajaniemi).

Regarding Claim 30, Rajaniemi fails to disclose a wireless communications system information message comprising an "... information block including a pointer to a location where identities for multiple wireless communications core networks sharing a common access network may be obtained." At col. 6, lines 1-5 & line 58 – col. 7, line 3 of Rajaniemi, a cell

broadcasts location area identifiers for the location areas of all core networks to which the cell belongs for the purpose of providing location updates to a core network.

Regarding Claim 33, Rajaniemi fails to disclose a wireless communications system information message comprising an "... information block including a data field for indicating that a network entity may select, on behalf of a communication device, one of a plurality of core networks sharing a common access network." At col. 6, lines 1-5 & line 58 – col. 7, line 3 of Rajaniemi, a cell broadcasts location area identifiers for the location areas of all core networks to which the cell belongs for the purpose of providing location updates to a core network.

Prayer For Relief

In view of the discussion above, kindly proceed with the substantive examination of Claims 1-37 pending in the present application without further delay.

Respectfully submitted,

/ R K BOWLER/

ROLAND K. BOWLER II 8 Nov. 2006
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